

**LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (**Currently Amended**) ~~An method of managing bets,~~ apparatus comprising at least one processor having instructions associated therewith that when executed make the processor operable to:

a) receive from a bettor a wager on identifying a field of participants for an event[[,]] at desired odds,

in which the event comprises a plurality of each participants associated with particular odds to finish in a particular subset and a plurality of finishing positions in the event betting options;

b) determine odds for the plurality of betting options, the odds comprising at least:

i) first identifying customized odds for a first betting option, and

ii) second odds for a second betting option;

identifying a lead participant from the field of participants;

c) selecting one or more additional participants from the field of participants such that the odds associated with the lead participant determine that combined a combination with of at least the first odds and the second odds associated with the one or more selected additional participants at least approximates the customized desired odds for the bet; and

d) based at least in part on determining that the combination of at least the first odds and the second odds at least approximates the desired odds, establish[[ing]] for the bettor at least: on a group of participants that comprises the lead participant and the additional participants

a first bet on the first betting option, and

a second bet on the second betting option.

Claim 2 (**Canceled**).

3. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The method~~ apparatus of claim [[2]] 1, in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to:

based at least in part on a result of the event comprising any of the first betting option and the second betting option, determine that the wager comprises a winning wager; and

based at least in part on determining that the wager comprises the winning wager,  
~~further comprising paying~~ determine a total return associated with for the bet wager, wherein  
~~the total return is based at least in part upon the customized odds.~~

Claims 4-7 (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, ~~further comprising~~  
in which the wager comprises a bet amount; and  
in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to:  
    allocate[[ing]] a first portion of the bet amount to each of the participants in  
    the group of participants, first bet; and  
    allocate a second portion of the bet amount to the second bet  
    ~~wherein the allocation is based at least in part upon the odds associated with~~  
    ~~each of the participants in the group of participants.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, in which the instructions,  
that when executed, make the processor further operable to: further comprising  
    determine[[ing]] that a bet associated with no combination of the determined odds at  
    least approximates the customized desired odds; may not be established and[[,]]  
    based at least in response part on determining that no combination of the determined  
    odds at least approximates the desired odds, establish[[ing]] for the bettor a third bet on one  
    of the lead participant based upon plurality of betting options at the determined odds of the  
    lead participant for that betting option.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising in~~  
which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to:  
    determine[[ing]] a target percentage based at least in part [[up]]on the customized  
    desired odds for the bet and a takeout associated with the bet wager[[,]];  
    determine a first percentage for the first odds; and  
    determine a second percentage for the second odds; and  
    ~~wherein in which selecting one or more additional participants from the field of~~  
    ~~participants further~~ to determine that the combination of at least the first odds and the second  
    odds at least approximates the desired odds comprises selecting one or more additional

~~participants based at least in part upon~~ to determine that at least the first percentage and the second percentage at least approximates the target percentage.

Claim 11 (**Canceled**).

12. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 55, ~~wherein:~~  
~~in which the field of participants comprises a plurality of horses in a horse race; and~~  
the type of bet comprises at least one of:

- a win bet,
- a place bet,
- a show bet,
- an exacta bet,
- a trifecta bet,
- a superfecta bet, and
- a quinella bet.

13. (**Original**) A method for managing bets, comprising:  
identifying a field of participants for an event, each participant associated with particular odds to finish in a particular subset of finishing positions in the event;  
identifying customized odds for a bet;  
selecting a plurality of participants from the field of participants such that the odds associated with each of the selected participants combines to at least approximate the customized odds for the bet;  
establishing the bet on the selected participants.

14. (**Original**) The method of claim 13, wherein the bet is associated with a bet amount and comprises a bet that at least one of the selected participants will finish in a predetermined subset of finishing positions associated with the event.

15. (**Original**) The method of claim 14, further comprising paying a total return associated with the bet, wherein the total return is based at least in part upon the customized odds.

Claim 16-18 (**Canceled**).

19. (**Original**) The method of claim 13, wherein:  
the event comprises a pari-mutuel wagering event; and  
selecting a plurality of participants from the field of participants is performed at least in part while wagering on the event is ongoing.

20. (**Original**) The method of claim 14, further comprising allocating a portion of the bet amount to each of the selected participants, wherein the allocation is based at least in part upon the odds associated with each of the selected participants.

Claim 21 (**Canceled**).

22. (**Original**) The method of claim 13, further comprising determining a target percentage based at least in part upon the customized odds for the bet and a takeout associated with the bet, and wherein selecting a plurality of participants from the field of participants further comprises selecting a plurality of participants based at least in part upon the target percentage.

23. (**Original**) The method of claim 13, wherein each of the selected participants comprises a plurality of participants.

24. (**Original**) The method of claim 23, wherein:  
the field of participants comprises a plurality of horses in a horse race; and  
the bet comprises one of an exacta bet, a trifecta bet, a superfecta bet, and a quinella bet.

25. (**Currently Amended**) A method of managing bets, comprising:  
~~identifying a field of participants for an event, each participant associated with particular odds for the event;~~  
a) receiving from a bettor a bet wager on ~~that a lead participant from the field of participants will finish in a particular subset of finishing positions associated with the an~~ an event, wherein the bet is associated with customized at desired odds[[:]];

in which the event comprises a plurality of participants and a plurality of betting options;

b) determining odds for the plurality of betting options, the odds comprising at least:

i) first odds for a first betting option, and

ii) second odds for a second betting option;

c) ~~selecting one or more additional participants from the field of participants to add to the bet such that the odds associated with the lead participant~~ determining that combined a combination with of at least the first odds and the second odds associated with the one or more selected additional participants at least approximates the customized desired odds for the bet; and

d) based at least in part on determining that the combination of at least the first odds and the second odds at least approximates the desired odds, establishing for the bettor at least: a first bet on the first betting option, and a second bet on the second betting option.

26. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 25, ~~wherein if any one of the lead participant or the additional participants finishes in the particular subset of finishing positions in~~ further comprising:

determining that the wager comprises a winning wager based at least in part on a result of the event[[,]] comprising any of the first betting option and the second betting option; and

based at least in part on determining that the wager comprises the winning wager, determining a total return associated with for the bet wager will be based upon the customized odds.

Claims 27-29 (Canceled).

30. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 25, ~~wherein in which the bet wager comprises a bet amount; and the lead participant and the additional participants form a group of participants,~~

in which the method further comprises[[ing]] allocating a first portion of the bet amount to each of the participants in the group of participants, first bet; and

allocating a second portion of the bet amount to the second bet

~~wherein the allocation is based at least in part upon the odds associated with each of the participants in the group of participants.~~

Claims 31-32 (Canceled).

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising:  
determining a target percentage based at least in part ~~[[up]]~~ on the ~~customized~~ desired odds ~~for the bet~~ and a takeout associated with the ~~bet~~ wager~~[[,]]~~;  
determining a first percentage for the first odds; and  
determining a second percentage for the second odds; and  
~~wherein in which selecting one or more additional participants from the field of participants further~~ determining that the combination of at least the first odds and the second odds at least approximates the desired odds comprises selecting one or more additional participants based at least in part upon determining that at least the first percentage and the second percentage at least approximates the target percentage.

Claim 34 (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[34]]~~ 63, ~~wherein:~~  
in which the field of participants comprises a plurality of horses in a horse race; and  
the type of bet comprises at least one of:  
    a win bet,  
    a place bet,  
    a show bet,  
    an exacta bet,  
    a trifecta bet,  
    a superfecta bet, and  
    a quinella bet.

36. (Currently Amended) An system apparatus for managing bets, comprising~~[[:]]~~  
~~a memory operable to store information associated with a field of participants for an event, each participant associated with particular odds for the event; and~~ at least one

processor ~~coupled to the memory and~~ having instructions associated therewith that when executed make the processor operable to:

a) receive from a bettor a bet wager on that a lead participant from the field of participants will finish in a particular subset of finishing positions associated with the an event, wherein the bet wager comprising a first betting option is associated with customized at desired odds[[]], and

in which the event comprises a plurality of participants and a plurality of betting options including the first betting option;

b) determine odds for the plurality of betting options, the odds comprising at least:

i) first odds for the first betting option, and

ii) second odds for a second betting option;

c) select one or more additional participants from the field of participants to add to the bet such that the odds associated with the lead participant determine that at least the second odds combined in combination with the first odds associated with the one or more selected additional participants at least approximates the customized desired odds for the bet; and

d) based at least in part on determining that at least the second odds in combination with the first odds at least approximates the desired odds, establish for the bettor at least:

a first bet on the first betting option at the first odds, and

a second bet on the second betting option at the second odds.

37. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~system apparatus~~ of claim 36, wherein if any one of the lead participant or the additional participants finishes in the particular subset of finishing positions in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to:

determine that the wager comprises a winning wager based at least in part on a result of the event[[]] comprising any of the first betting option and the second betting option; and

based at least in part on determining that the wager comprises the winning wager, determine a total return associated with for the bet wager will be based upon the customized odds.

Claims 38-40 **(Canceled)**.

41. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 36, ~~wherein~~ in which the ~~bet~~ wager comprises a bet amount; and ~~the lead participant and the additional participants form a group of participants,~~  
in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to:  
allocate a first portion of the bet amount to ~~each of the participants in the~~  
~~group of participants,~~ first bet; and  
allocate a second portion of the bet amount to the second bet  
~~wherein the allocation is based at least in part upon the odds associated with~~  
~~each of the participants in the group of participants.~~

Claim 42 (**Canceled**).

43. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 36, ~~wherein~~ in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor ~~[[is]]~~ further operable to:  
determine that ~~a bet associated with~~ none of the determined odds in combination with  
the ~~customized first odds may not be established~~ at least approximates the desired odds;  
and~~[[,]]~~  
based at least in response ~~part on determining that none of the determined odds in~~  
combination with the first odds at least approximates the desired odds, establish for the bettor  
~~[[a]]~~ only the first bet on the lead participant based upon first betting option at the first odds  
of the lead participant.

44. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 36, ~~wherein~~ in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor ~~[[is]]~~ further operable to:  
determine a target percentage based at least in part ~~[[up]]~~ on the customized desired  
odds for the bet and a takeout associated with the ~~bet~~ wager~~[[,]]~~;  
determine a first percentage for the first odds; and  
determine a second percentage for the second odds; and  
~~wherein in which selecting one or more additional participants from the field of~~  
~~participants further~~ to determine that at least the second odds in combination with the first  
odds at least approximates the desired odds comprises selecting one or more additional  
~~participants based at least in part upon~~ to determine that at least the second percentage in  
combination with the first percentage at least approximates the target percentage.



Claim 45 (**Canceled**).

46. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim [[45]] 68, ~~wherein:~~  
in which the field of participants comprises a plurality of horses in a horse race; and the type  
of bet comprises at least one of:

- a win bet,
- a place bet,
- a show bet,
- an exacta bet,
- a trifecta bet,
- a superfecta bet, and
- a quinella bet.

47. (**New**) The apparatus of claim 1,  
in which the first odds are more than the desired odds, and  
in which the second odds are more than the desired odds.

48. (**New**) The apparatus of claim 1,  
in which the first odds are different from the desired odds, and  
in which the second odds are different from the desired odds.

49. (**New**) The apparatus of claim 48,  
in which to establish the first bet comprises to establish the first bet on the first betting  
option at the first odds; and  
in which to establish the second bet comprises to establish the second bet on the  
second betting option at the second odds.

50. (**New**) The apparatus of claim 1,  
in which the wager comprises a selection by the bettor of at least a first participant;  
in which at least the first betting option is associated with at least the first participant;  
and

in which to establish the first bet on the first betting option further comprises to establish the first bet on the first betting option based at least in part on the first betting option being associated with at least the first participant and the bettor having selected the first participant.

51. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1,  
in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to select from the plurality of participants at least a first participant;  
in which at least the first betting option is associated with at least the first participant;  
and  
in which to establish the first bet on the first betting option further comprises to establish the first bet on the first betting option based at least in part on the first betting option being associated with at least the first participant, and the first participant having been selected from the plurality of participants.

52. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1,  
in which the wager comprises a selection by the bettor of the first betting option;  
in which the first betting option comprises at least a first participant finishing the event in accordance with a type of bet; and  
in which to establish the first bet on the first betting option further comprises to establish the first bet on the first betting option based at least in part on the bettor having selected the first betting option.

53. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 52,  
in which the type of bet comprises at least one of:  
a win bet,  
a place bet,  
a show bet,  
an exacta bet,  
a trifecta bet,  
a superfecta bet, and  
a quinella bet.

54. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, in which the instructions, that when executed, make the processor further operable to cause the bettor to be notified that:

the first bet has been established for the bettor on the first betting option, and  
the second bet has been established for the bettor on the second betting option.

55. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, in which each of the plurality of betting options comprises a type of bet and at least one specified participant finishing the event in at least one specified finishing position.

56. **(New)**. The apparatus of claim 1, in which the wager comprises a winning wager when a result of the event comprises any of:

the first betting option, and  
the second betting option.

57. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 3,  
in which the desired odds are different from the first odds and the second odds;  
in which to establish the first bet comprises to establish the first bet on the first betting option at the first odds;  
in which to establish the second bet comprises to establish the second bet on the second betting option at the second odds; and  
in which the total return at least approximates the desired odds.

58. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 8,  
in which the first portion allocated to the first bet comprises a first amount that is determined based at least in part on the first odds for the first betting option; and  
in which the second portion allocated to the second bet comprises a second amount that is determined based at least in part on the second odds for the second betting option.

59. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 8,  
in which the wager comprises a winning wager when a result of the event comprises any of:

the first betting option, and  
the second betting option;

in which the first portion allocated to the first bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the first betting option, a total return to the bettor comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds; and

in which the second portion allocated to the second bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the second betting option, the total return to the better comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds.

60. **(New)** The method of claim 25,  
in which the desired odds are different from the first odds and the second odds;  
in which establishing the first bet comprises establishing the first bet on the first betting option at the first odds; and  
in which establishing the second bet comprises establishing the second bet on the second betting option at the second odds.

61. **(New)** The method of claim 25,  
in which the wager comprises a selection by the bettor of the first betting option;  
in which the first betting option comprises at least a first participant finishing the event in accordance with a type of bet; and  
in which establishing the first bet on the first betting option comprises establishing the first bet on the first betting option based at least in part on the bettor having selected the first betting option.

62. **(New)** The method of claim 61,  
in which the type of bet comprises at least one of:  
a win bet,  
a place bet,  
a show bet,  
an exacta bet,  
a trifecta bet,  
a superfecta bet, and  
a quinella bet.

63. **(New)** The method of claim 25, in which each of the plurality of betting options comprises a type of bet and at least one specified participant finishing the event in at least one specified finishing position.

64. **(New)** The method of claim 26,  
in which the desired odds are different from the first odds and the second odds;  
in which establishing the first bet comprises establishing the first bet on the first betting option at the first odds;  
in which establishing the second bet comprises establishing the second bet on the second betting option at the second odds; and  
in which the total return at least approximates the desired odds.

65. **(New)** The method of claim 30,  
in which the first portion allocated to the first bet comprises a first amount that is determined based at least in part on the first odds for the first betting option; and  
in which the second portion allocated to the second bet comprises a second amount that is determined based at least in part on the second odds for the second betting option.

66. **(New)** The method of claim 30,  
in which the wager comprises a winning wager when a result of the event comprises any of:

the first betting option, and  
the second betting option;

in which the first portion allocated to the first bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the first betting option, a total return to the bettor comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds; and

in which the second portion allocated to the second bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the second betting option, the total return to the better comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds.

67. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 36, in which the desired odds are different from the first odds and the second odds.

68. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 36, in which the first betting option comprises at least a first participant finishing the event in accordance with a type of bet.

69. **(New)**. The apparatus of claim 36, in which the wager comprises a winning wager when a result of the event comprises any of:

the first betting option, and  
the second betting option.

70. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 37,  
in which the desired odds are different from the first odds and the second odds; and  
in which the total return at least approximates the desired odds.

71. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 41,  
in which the first portion allocated to the first bet comprises a first amount that is determined based at least in part on the first odds for the first betting option, and  
in which the second portion allocated to the second bet comprises a second amount that is determined based at least in part on the second odds for the second betting option.

72. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 41,  
in which the wager comprises a winning wager when a result of the event comprises any of:

the first betting option, and  
the second betting option;

in which the first portion allocated to the first bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the first betting option, a total return to the bettor comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds; and

in which the second portion allocated to the second bet is such that when the result of the event comprises the second betting option, the total return to the better comprises an amount that at least approximates the desired odds.